

Alliance Point 14: Improve our capacity to interrupt drug shipments by air, land, and sea.

ACTION	BASELINE As of 1 Feb 98	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	STATUS As of 31 Aug 99
<p>14.1. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will periodically exchange statistical information regarding the results of ground, aerial, and maritime interdiction and detained persons.</p>	<p>Monthly reports from Mexico.</p> <p>Ad hoc reports by the U.S.</p> <p>Annual reporting of statistics to OAS for publication in regional report.</p>	<p>One (consolidated, interagency) report to Mexico. The report should present statistical information on (but not be limited to) detection and monitoring activities, searches, seizures, detained persons, and end-game successes.</p> <p>Establish an agreed upon format for future exchanges of reports (frequency, format, content).</p>	<p>Number of informational exchange reports provided to Mexico.</p> <p>An agreed upon format for the exchange of reports established.</p>	<p>Mexico maintains the Uniform Statistical Drug Control System, which incorporates updated information related to interdiction results from all agencies participating in drug enforcement. This system generates weekly, monthly and annual reports. Mexico shares its reports with the U.S. on a monthly basis.</p> <p>U.S. agencies have initiated the gathering of information on interdiction results in U.S. territory. The U.S. has shared statistical reports with Mexico, especially in specific bilateral meetings.</p> <p>Both countries will keep working to formalize the periodical exchange of statistical information on their respective national results, as well as relevant information for operations, through a formal procedure and in specific periods of time.</p>

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<p>14.2. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will develop and strengthen mechanisms for the interchange of information regarding new routes and methods used to transport drugs.</p>	<p>Mechanisms: The High Level Contact Group (HLCG), the Information Analysis Center (IAC), and the Northern Border Response Force (NBRF) Steering Committee. Information: Bi-National Threat Assessment, as well as information exchanged via IAC.</p>	<p>Review at each Bilateral Working Group the effectiveness of the mechanisms used to exchange information. Propose changes if necessary to increase the effectiveness of information exchange mechanisms.</p>	<p>Effectiveness, efficiency, and number of successful interdictions produced by mechanisms used to exchange information.</p>	<p>-From March 1998 to August 1999, various working meetings among several agencies from both countries were held to review the effectiveness of the information exchange mechanisms regarding interdiction. The issues covered in these meetings are: real-time information exchange mechanisms, generation of intelligence reports for air and sea interdiction, information exchange on suspicious aircraft and vessels in the Caribbean and the Pacific, and creation of air and land-related databases.</p> <p>-In May 1999, Mexico proposed the establishment of a specialized technical bilateral working group, to serve as a supervision and follow-up organism of the bilateral cooperation mechanisms between both countries, as well as an adequate framework for the exchange of strategic drug-related information in both countries. The establishment of this group will strengthen bilateral cooperation in this matter.</p>

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14.2. (Con't)				-DAICC Riverside hosts an exchange liaison with GOM/PGR. USG and GOM are jointly studying the feasibility of establishing additional liaison positions in the U.S.

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<p>14.3. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will determine the appropriate mechanisms for collaboration for the detection and prevention of maritime, ground and aerial trafficking, based on the domestic legislation of each country as well as the international conventions applicable to this issue.</p>	<p>Coordination between NBRF and the IAC on U.S. intelligence-cued narco-targets.</p> <p>March AFB meeting.</p>	<p>Identify and integrate (via the Bilateral Working Group, quarterly meetings between CENDRO and the JIATFs, and other such similar meetings between U.S. and Mexico) mechanisms for collaboration for the detection and prevention of maritime, ground and aerial trafficking.</p>	<p>Improved efficiency (timeliness and accuracy of reports, impact on number of successful interdictions produced by mechanisms for collaboration for the detection and prevention of maritime, ground and aerial trafficking. Increased familiarity with mechanisms among interdiction elements.</p>	<p>The collaboration mechanisms for detecting and preventing air, sea and land trafficking have been strengthened; coordination for the detection and tracking of aerial targets has significantly improved, thus expediting the procedures for the authorization of surveillance flights and related actions.</p> <p>The liaison among diverse agencies from both countries for drug interdiction has been maintained through secure communications systems, including the use of electronic communications.</p> <p>Both governments are considering a list of recommendations on maritime cooperation.</p> <p>The collaboration areas that need future strengthening have been identified, especially the mechanisms for information exchange on interdiction. The need for sharing strategic information has been detected, along with the need to optimize the communications systems for the exchange of real-time information and to strengthen the constant flow of information.</p>

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14.3. (Con't)		Publish a guide to familiarize interdiction elements with all mechanisms available for D&M collaboration.	Delivery of a guide to familiarize interdiction elements with all mechanisms available for D&M collaboration.	<p>The guide has not been published, however, the Intelligence and Analysis Center coordinates actively with CENDRO-6, transmitting its data on detection and monitoring to the GOM for interdiction activities.</p> <p>The USCG and the Mexican Navy have developed a series of protocols for communication and information sharing with regard to interdiction.</p>

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<p>14.4. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will continue existing cooperation, and enhance coordination and exchange of information mechanisms in order to permit the interdiction organizations of both the United States and Mexico, in their respective jurisdictions, to improve the processes used to combat aerial drug trafficking.</p>	<p>Voice-tell (non-secure) aerial track information of suspect targets of interest (TOI) approaching Mexican airspace.</p>	<p>Transmit secure, digital, near real-time aerial track information of suspect air targets of interest.</p>	<p>Increase in amount of air targets of interest information provided by secure, digital, near real-time information sharing systems.</p> <p>Increase in detection and monitoring coverage resulting from improved coordination between countries.</p> <p>Reduction in response times to suspect targets.</p> <p>Number of successful interdictions of suspected traffickers.</p>	<p>The development of transmission and liaison systems between agencies from both countries has been consolidated, resulting in a broader and safer exchange of information.</p> <p>Regarding air interdiction, the electronic information exchange system between U.S. & Mexico agencies has allowed for an increase in the volume of information exchanged, improve its timeliness and the security of transmissions. These actions have been carried out with full respect to the respective jurisdictions and in compliance with applicable national and international regulations.</p> <p>In September 1998, an operational liaison between PGR and the U.S. Customs Service was established. Authorities in both countries will strengthen the liaison systems through competent agencies, broadening the availability of specialized personnel and adopting procedures to guarantee a constant flow of information, including contingency procedures.</p> <p>DOD installed a new system that</p>

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14.4. (Con't)				<p>simultaneously displays suspect air tracks to different Mexican agencies, and expanded the coverage area to show air tracks off the coast of South America.</p> <p>In February 1999, Mexico announced measures to strengthen its Drug Interdiction Plan. Among the basic principles for strengthening Mexico's drug strategy are the modernization process of Early Warning systems, tracking, recording and reaction in national territory. The strengthening of air interdiction systems, which includes airborne detection platforms, is noteworthy.</p> <p>From March 1998 to July 1999, 28 air interdiction operations (warnings) have taken place, as a result of the information exchange with the U.S. 24 ended up in Central America. The remaining 4 reached Mexican territory and were fully neutralized, seizing 1,005 Kg. of cocaine, aircraft, weapons, land vehicles and the arrest of three individuals.</p> <p>The response times for targets has been significantly reduced,</p>

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14.4. (Con't)				since the CITATION equipment was relocated.

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<p>14.5. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will continue to adopt the necessary measures and utilize existing mechanisms within their respective jurisdictions for combating drug trafficking on land.</p>	<p>Coordination between NBRF and the IAC on U.S. intelligence-cued narco-targets.</p>	<p>Increased coordination and flow of information exchanged between U.S. and Mexican counterdrug authorities to combat drug trafficking on land.</p> <p>Increase in the number of successful interdiction operations of suspected traffickers.</p>	<p>Amount of ground targets of interest information provided by secure, digital, near real-time information sharing systems.</p> <p>Number of successful interdictions of suspected traffickers.</p> <p>Expansion of detection and monitoring coverage resulting from improved coordination between countries.</p> <p>Reduction in response times to suspect targets.</p>	<p>The operational coordination mechanisms established by each country allow for the broad exploitation of the communications and liaison systems established among competent authorities in Mexico and the U.S: against land trafficking operations. Both countries will continue to work in order to extend the coordination and the exchange of information for land interdiction in their respective territories, for example, strengthening the liaison mechanisms along the border and coordinating inspection strategies in that area.</p> <p>Mexico has developed a remote cartographic information system, obtaining real-time data which allow early warning for timely deployment of Land Interdiction Bases and units from different agencies in the presence of a potential target.</p> <p>In February 1999, Mexico announced the strengthening of its drug strategy. Among its basic principles are the modernization of land interdiction systems, which covers, among others, the</p>

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14.5. (Con't)				<p>following infrastructure: counterdrug equipment in highways and border crossings, made up of x-ray systems (<i>Mobile Search</i>, <i>Body Search</i> and <i>Buster</i>), satellite detection equipment and canine detection units.</p> <p>Since June 1998, Mexican authorities conduct an operation aimed at strengthening surveillance against drug trafficking in the northern and southern borders. Likewise, in June 1999, the Person Revision Program in the Southern Border was implemented, through the deployment of mobile and fixed checkpoints at formal and informal border crossings. An important component of both programs is the revision of land transportation, through a visual and non-intrusive inspection with the <i>Mobile Search</i> X-ray detection system.</p> <p>As a complement to the Person Revision Program in the Southern Border, as of July 1999 river patrols were implemented with small vessels in the Lacantún, Salinas and Usumacinta rivers, as well as land patrols on the Mexican</p>

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14.5. (Con't)		Reduce response times to suspected targets.		<p>bank of the Suchiate river, in order to impede drug trafficking. In July and August 1999, in its river patrols, SM-AM navigated 235 nautical miles, searched 2841 persons, 496 vehicles, and seized 68 persons and 38 small vessels.</p> <p>Additionally, Mexico maintains the Highway search Points program in the highways and roads of the national territory. Likewise, an operation was initiated, in order to improve controls on railroads through the search of merchandise at strategic drug crossing points.</p> <p>Mexico has established specific controls regarding land transportation (highways and intersections) in the Tehuantepec Isthmus. The operation relies on drug detection systems for persons and cargo.</p> <p>During 1998, PGR inspected 547,880 land vehicles, and conducted 380,338 complementary searches and patrols in bus and railroad stations, and in zones adjacent to Interdiction Bases.</p> <p>This surveillance procedure in</p>

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14.5. (Con't)				<p>land routes resulted in the 1998 seizure, by federal agencies, of 149 kgs of opium gum; 13,712 kgs of cocaine; 1,012,936 kgs of marijuana; 96 kgs of methamphetamine.</p> <p>From January to August 1999, federal authorities have seized, in land routes: 8,194.5597 kgs of cocaine; 705,729.2265 kgs of marijuana; 133.2919 kgs of heroin and 618.0522 kgs of opium gum.</p> <p>See 14.4.</p>

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<p>14.6. The Governments of Mexico and the United States will increase the exchange of information and the coordination of maritime interdiction developed by each country within its jurisdiction, according to respective domestic legislation, international maritime law, and the applicable international conventions.</p>	<p>Exchanging information via voice-tell (non-secure), fax, telephone, NBRF steering Committee, USCG and Marina coordination for interdiction operations. Both countries exercise exclusive jurisdiction for the actions described in Alliance Point 14.6. in their territorial waters.</p>	<p>Compatible communication method and link to transmit maritime target-of-interest (TOI) information for successful interdiction operations.</p> <p>Increase in the amount of successful interdictions of suspected traffickers.</p>	<p>Number and quality of compatible, secure communication link to transmit maritime target-of-interest (TOI) via information sharing systems.</p> <p>Number of successful interdictions of suspected traffickers.</p>	<p>As of March 1998, authorities from both countries have adopted measures that have strengthened the real-time information exchange systems, the increase in communications among specific agencies, and the increase in coordination for maritime interdiction. The actions have taken place with full respect for the respective jurisdictions and applicable national and international regulations.</p> <p>In order to properly fulfill interdiction requirements in the strategic area contained by the limits of the continental mass, the Mexican coastline and inner waterways, the Mexican Government created the Amphibious Interdiction concept, to this end, SEDENA organized 36 Amphibious Special Forces Groups, equipped with 144 interdiction and 108 reconnaissance boats.</p> <p>In February 1999, Mexico announced the strengthening of its Drug Strategy. Among the basic principles are the modernization process of maritime interdiction equipment, which covers the following</p>

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14.6. (Con't)		Increase in the amount of actionable information exchanged.	Amount of actionable information exchanged.	<p>infrastructure: Speedboats; Holzinger 2000 gunships, equipped with interceptor speedboats and a helicopter; Centenario corvettes, equipped with an interceptor speedboat and two shallow-water patrols; counterdrug equipment in ports and satellite detection equipment.</p> <p>The collaboration mechanisms have allowed Mexican authorities to execute six maritime operations in Mexican waters, with the resulting seizure of 17,170.151 kgs of cocaine, four vessels and the arrest of 23 felons. The cases of vessels <i>Lady Dounia</i> (Aug. 98), <i>Mazatlán IV</i> (Jun. 99) and <i>Xoloescuintle</i> (Aug. 99) are noteworthy.</p>
		Reduction in response time to suspect targets.	Reduction in response times for suspect targets.	<p>Between March 1998 and June 1999, The U.S. Embassy provided 51 intelligence reports calling for action in port warehouses, seizing 1785 kgs of cocaine and 4000 kgs of phenylpropanolamine.</p>

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14.6. (Con't)				<p>An important increase in the quantity and quality of exchanged information for maritime interdiction has been observed. As of summer 1998, the USG implemented new procedures that have strengthened coordination for maritime interdiction.</p> <p>See 14.5.</p> <p>USCG Region Eight: In cooperation with the Government of Mexico apprehended by the USCG were 4 lanchas, 8 crew members and 8 migrants in four separate incidents.</p> <p>USCG Region Eleven: There were 8 Search and Rescue cases and 2 law enforcement cases coordinated with the Government of Mexico.</p>